INPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.

TEREATERED COMPLICATIONS WITH SPAIN.

Troubles on the Texan Frontier.

OFFICIAL ADVICES FROM JAPAN.

Reception of the Japanese

Interesting Debate on the Homestead Bill

the circumstances. Very respectfully,

W. R. DRINKARD, acting Soc'y of War.

The Secretary of War to-day received from Major Bisintesiman, dated Fort Brown, forza, Feb. 29, 1860, the following letters, giving additional particulars of existing troubles on the Rio Grande:—

Sm.—I have the hoar to report that Cortinas and his followers have dispersed, and I do not believe that another effort will be made by him to collect a force. After the affair of the 4th of February, at the Bolms, he retired to La Mora, six miles beak from the river, and there remaines with a small force until within a few days, when he left with five man, and is reported to be at Comargo, or further back in the interior. Immediately after he left a body of troops from Matamoras were soon in the vicinity of his abandonest camp. As his mother and brother are desirous to return to this side of the river and rescoupy their ranches, I am strengthened in the belief that Cortinas has left permanently. The cavalry and magars are actively employed in guarding the river, but it will be impossible to entirely prevent the incursions of rebbars so long as they have the protection of the Maxican side of the river. By occupying this post with two companies, and one caches Ringgold Barracks and Fort McIntosh, and with two companies of cavalry in the field, I think quist can be maintained on the lower Rio Grande. Very respectfully.

F. B.—Captains Lee's and Jourdan's companies of the Eighth infantry arrived here on the 27th inst. The latter will return to Ringgold Barracks in a few days, and the former await here have had a restinatory effect.

Fort Brown, Texas, March 7, 1800.

Con. S. Coorem, Adj. Gen. U. S. A.—

m off our guard. I have not had time to verify the ports.

The telegraphic reports in the newspapers of orders to cross after Cortings, and the arrival to day of company G 2d cavalry, one efficie and sixty-three men, here, creating times to act more efficiently. They know that we can starve them out in a fortubent. There is not a grain of corn in this part of the country. All the corn and flour they use go from the side.

Verg respectfully,

S. P. HEINIZELMAN.

THE PERMAN EMBERANT PASSENGER MILL.

Mr. Cochrane's bill for the protection of female emigract passengers came back to the House from the Senate to day with a triding amendment, which was concurred in by the House, and the bill awaits only the President's signature to become a law. This success of an important measure is creditable to Mr. Cochrane.

DYARTERS OF THE POSTMATTER GENERAL.

The Postmatter Seneral left here to day for Florida, to attend upon his sick wife, who is rapidly failing. He will

The Scuale Territorial Committee met this morning, and agreed to report bills organizing the Territories of Nevada, Jefferson, Armona and Pakotah. They also had un-

A resolution was reported by the House Co. Elections to-day against allowing Mr. Coper, democrat, whose seat is contested by Mr. Heward, further time to take testimony in the case. The resolution was opposed by all the democrats and Southern oppositionists present,

by all the democrats and Southern oppositionists present, except Mesers. Anderson of Kentucky, and Davis and Harris of Maryland.

To day the House refused to grant Mr. Cooper more time to take testimony, because he received a certificate of election, and Mr. Howard duly notified him that he should contest his seat. He heeded not the notice, and

Advices from Pike's Peak.

Advices from Pike's Peak exhibit a strong feeling on the part of the people there against the effort to include them in the proposed new State of Kansas. Public meetings are being held in the different settlements to give expression to the feelings of the people on the subject, and Congress is to be advised of their wishes.

APPROPRIATION SILES.

The Executive and Legislative Appropriation bill will be reported by Mr. Sherman in a few days, and will amount to about six millions of dollars.

The plan recommended by the Secretary of War for communicating military intelligence or orders between efficers or bodies of troops occupying positions on land distant from each other, promises to be of on land distant from each other, promises to be of immense value for military operations in the field, in sieges, or for scouting parties on the plains. It is proposed to introduce its use as a regular branch of military instruction for the officers of the army and of the military forces of the different States. As it meets with high favor with the military committees of the two Houses, and costs nothing requiring an appropriation, and peculiarly commends itself to the government, and requires no appropriation of money, it will undoubtedly be adopted.

IMPROVEMENTS OF THE CAPITAL.

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds have several important projects before it. The construction of a new prison for the District of Columbia has been referred to Mr. Peyton, of Kentucky, who is thoroughly

a new prison for the District of Columbia has been referred to Mr. Poyton, cf Kentucky, who is thoroughly investigating the subject, and will report back to the committee in a day or two a bill embracing a plan for a new jail that will not be a disgrace to humanity and the country. Mr. Beale has in charge the construction of a bill to pay certain employées on the public grounds. Mr. McTherson has been charged with a potition of laborers praying for relief. Mr. Train, the Chairman, is very active in preparing a bill defining the duties of the Art Commission. The Committee intend recommending a new and more desirable arrangement for the House library.

Mr. Chaffee, the House librarian, is using his efforts to remove the library from its present fifthy and narrow contracted place to more convenient and respectable quarters. He is desirous of converting a portion of the old hall of the House of Representatives to the desired purpose, but I am satisfied that a majority of the Committee on Public Buildings are opposed to the plan, believing that the old hall should be decorated with works of art, under the supervision of the Art Commission.

Mr. Irain, the Casirman, has in charge a recolution with instructions to inquire into the mode and manner of lighting the Capital and President's heuse, the public grounds around them, and around the executive offices and Pennsylvania avanue, the bridges and high streets to Georgelown, Four and half, Seventh and Tweitth streets, acrossive Mail, and to assortian the strength and twenth streets, acrossive Mail, and to assortian the strength and twenth streets, acrossive Mail, and to assortian the strength and the present supply of gas having the tendency to increase carkness rather than shed light.

The Commissioner of Public Buildings recommends the immediate creetion of a north portion to the Patent office, which will cost about seventy-five thousand dollars. About thirty five thousand dollars of that amount is only necessary to be appropriated now, and I learn that the committee are in tayor of recommending H.

THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

few. All who stood in the relation pointed out should get some of it. It had been said that if they sciopted this system they would fail in their object of compelling persons to go into these Territorios and become cultivators of the foil. There were places where the government undertook to regulate labor, but he supposed that in the United States every man selected his own occupation. It seemed that he was in an error, and at this late day, after seventy or eightly years of liberty, the government should say to the people that it was wrong to foilow the bent of their inclinations, and that they ought togo into the new States and labor there to suit its purposes. And some Senatore taiked about the lonfers. These men had a right to be loafers if they pleased. How was it that Senators had a right to go into Pennsylvania and say, "You are loading about the streets—I want to get you planted on the public lands." Would that be justice? Suppose he owed a man fahundred dollars, had he a right to say, "I won't pay you here," but if you go to another part of the country I will pay you there." Why, there would be no justice in this. He could well understand such a proposition in a monarchy, where they claimed a right to regulate the people, but he was utterly amazed at this day that any one abould undertake to regulate the business of a community. This argument could not be maintained a moment. It was just as bad, in fact worse, than the system of compelling our people to become manufacturers. The result was that either the people or the Treasury would suffer under both schemes. In God's name, lot them shandon them both. But here was anothere objection. It every body could get their land for nothing, there would be ho price. He did not think there was much in the idea that speculators would monopolites this land; but if they did it would be the fault of the people themselves bruke that down, they could not complain that the old States attempted to obtain their share. He had not intended to speak at length, but to call at

made in the case of Oregon.

Mr. P.Con—And in New Mexico, Louisiana and Alabama.

Mr. Clay, (dem.) of Ala.—It was never done in Alabama or Mississippi.

Mr. Proin—Well.

Mr. Chindaxs—I know that the Senator is very ingenious I do not agree with him entirely on this question, and he did not convince me last Congress when I heard his argument. I merely rose to explain my amendment, and I thick he will find that the measure now under consideration is one very different in some respects from any heretofore adopted.

Mr. Halz, (rep) of N. H., said he wished, when the Senator explainted his amendment, he had gone on and told the Senate whether he was really in favor of his proposition as a substitutive measure, and would vote for the bill it is should be adopted, or whether or not it was merely an attempt to defeat the bill.

Mr. CHINGAX—I think the Senator did not hear the first part of my remarks. I said I was opposed to this system, and if for either I prefer an equal one.

Mr. Halz remarked, that if they adopted the Senator's amendment, he (Mr. Clingman) would vote against it, and therefore it should be considered rather as an attempt to defeat the bill. He asks, how can we justify this to cur people? He (Mr. Hale) never had any difficulty in the world in justifying any vote he had given since he became a member of Congress, and when his action was called in question he thought he could. But if if there was a measure for which he could vote and justify himself to his people by the soundest principle of legislation and philosophy he thought he could. But if if there was a measure for which he could so a vote in layor of this very Homestead bill. The experience of he government has suisided him, and the Sanator from North Carolina no doubt, that not one of the old States can ever cerive any direct benefit from the public lands. It was used in every possible way in a grant for the purcess of Agricultural Colleges, and it was found that the najority was against if. An appeal had been made to the heart of the nestion

ty direction given to the consideration of this measure. It was a great measure for evaluing that the House bill and experiment the body, and the true friends of the Homesteed principle abould take that which they could get. In 1846, when it was introduced, it wan not a party measure, and it passed the House by a two-third's vote. It should be acted upon in the xame spirit now, and kept out of the contentions of parties.

Mr. Waler withdrew his motion.

Mr. Wicrall, (dem.) of Toxas, said he could not agree not to regard this as a party question. Involving as it did the power of the government, it must give rise to a party issoc. If the government was elemosynary in its character—if it was established to provide for the halt, blind, lime, &c.—if it would give lands to the landless, why not niggers to the nigger-ker? It might reopen the African slave trade an missionary grounds, and bring segrees here to be converted. He always dealt with things plainly and practically. The proposition was to give homes to the homeless. Now, if we could give lands, why not give money? If they were to give lands, he should propose to give each man one hundred and sixy dollars in cash, and pay him mileage to come here; and man and a child—with the prospect of a large increase. (Laughther.) Mr. Wighlithen went into an examination of the powers of the federal government, and contended that as the trustee of the sovereign States, it had no right to vote away their lands. In the course of his remarks he said it is nonsense to laik of a State committing treason—the thing was impossible. He owed allegiance to the State of Texas, which, conjointly with the other States, exercised the same portion of the sovereign power. Whonever she declared the federal government, and contended that as its trustee of the sovereign power. Whonever she declared the federal government, and contended that it would be his duty to relate the the sort of his remarks he said it is nonsense to laik of a State committed the state, and the procedure of the sovereig

ball," whereby the inhabitants of the city, and likewise persons on the North and East rivers, as well as in the persons on the North and East rivers, as well as in the lower bay, may be enabled to tell to a nicety the hour of noon, is now all ready to be housed above the Custom House, and doubtless in a few days will enter upon its career of usefulness. The ball is manufactured of ashwood, painted red, weighs one hundred pounds, and is exacly six feet in dismoter. The pole on which it is to be displayed is a plain iron staff, fifty feet in length and four inches in diameter, and the elevating thin rope is of wire, almost as flexible as a common hempen cord. At noon precisely, according to the Superintendent of the Astronomical Observatory at Albany, the ball will be shot off the pole by means of a powerful electro-magnet.

PRIME FOR THE MEXARIE (NEW ORLEASS) JOCKEY CLUB.—Messis. Tiffany & Co., of this city, have just completed a magnificent prize for the Metairie Jockey Club race, which

magnificent prize for the Metairie Jockey Club race, which is to come off in New Orleans in next April. It consists is to come off in New Oricans in next April. It consists of a crescent shaped bown, with a pedestal fashioned after a Meorish urn, and is a splendid plece of workmanship, worth some \$500. It is manufactured of allver, twenty-two inches high, weighs 170 ounces, and is capable of holding about a gallon. On one side of the bowl is a representation of the new race course and stand, and on the base of the pedestal the figures of two horses are exquisitely engraved.

Fire in the St. Denis Hotze.—Damage at Fire and Watter About \$1.00.

Between sight and nine o'clock

FIRE IN THE ST. DENIS HOTEL—DAMAGE BY FIRE AND WATER ABOUT \$10,000.—Between eight and nine o'clock last night a fire was discovered in one of the rooms on the seventh story of the St. Denis Hotel, corner of Broadway and Eleventh street. The fire it seems occurred in one of the bedrooms; the smoke in the upper part of the house was the first intimation given of the fire. The slarm was coon spread through the house, and great was the contusion; the bearders on the different floors began packing up their valuables, while others made good their ercape with but just the clothing they possessed about them. The alarm soon brought the firemen to the building, and some short time elspeed in getting water to bear on the fire in consequence of the height of the building. The hotel is kept by Feter Degwo; the damage on the ursiture will amount to about \$5.000. Insured for \$25,000 in the Ruigers, Excelsion, East River, Relief and Everett Insurance companies. The building is damaged about \$5.000, Insured for \$25,000 in the Ruigers, Excelsion, East River, Relief and Everett Insurance companies. The building is damaged about \$5.000, Insured for \$25,000 in the Ruigers, Excelsion, East River, Relief and Everett Insurance companies. The building is damaged about \$5.000, Insured for \$25,000 in the Ruigers, Excelsion, East River, Relief and Everett Insurance companies. The building is damaged about \$5.000, Acting General Superintendent Carpenter was carly at the fire, and caused excellent order. The cause of the fire is at present unknown.

FIRE IN NINTH AVENUE.—Shortly before six o'clock

First in Nistin Avenue.—Shortly before six o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out between the buildings Nos. 71 and 73 Ninth avenue. It was caused by a spark from a stove in the premises of James Judd, who occupies the lower part of No. 71 as a segar store and dwelling. It appears that on Wednerday night, during the gale, they heard a loud noise apparently coming from the chimney, and on examination found a large crack down the back of the chimney. The firemen extinguished the fire before it did much damage. Mr. Judd has sustained about \$25 damage, by water, to his furniture. Insured for \$300 in the North River Insurance Company. The building No. 71 is owned by Stephen Cronkright. It is damaged about \$30, not insured. The building No. 73 is a tanement house. Much difficulty was incurred by the police in extricating the tenants, owing to the deuse amoke; and had the fire occurred in the night time several lives in all probability would have been lost. The damage to the furniture is by water, and will not exceed \$50. The building is owned by Cornelius Crookright. It is damaged about \$75, and is insured for \$1,800 in the North River Insurance Company.

First in Cheran Stress—One Horsa Burned to Darth — Shortly after nine o'clock leat night the alarm of fire for

bortly after nine o'clock last night the alarm of fire for Shortly after nine o'clock test night the alarm of lire for the Seventh district was caused by a fire in some frame stables rear of No. 64 Cherry street, owned by Charles Kelly. Several stables were destroyed. A horse belong-ing to John Cotick, worth about \$40, was burned to death The stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death The stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death The stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death the stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death the stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death the stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death the stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death the stables were worth about \$40, was burned to death

FINE ARR.—The first annual reception of the Brooklyn artists took place on Wednesday evening, at Dodsworth's rooms, Montague street. The show of pictures was extremely astisfactory, some of our best known artists, such as Mesers. Gignoux, Coleman, Innes, Bellowes, Carpenter, Gertel and Carmiencke being among the resident contributors. One lady strict, Miss Indiana Oakley, sent in a copy of a painting of Paul Veronese, and several orginal pictures which symmetry and the leading from the leading in the leading in

The Polar Exploring Expedition RESES OF DR. HAVES AND PROPESSOR MITCH

CHARLES P. DALY.

ILTHER BRADIEH.

In his remarks upon the resolution, the speaker mentioned the following facts, that the fund for the expedition had now reached the sum of \$10,000, and as evidence of the deep interest that men of science take in the subject, I may amounce the Professor Backe and Professor Henry have contributed the sum of \$1,000 each; and I may also mention smoog the liberal contributers Mr. Henry Grinnell, Mr. Cyrus W. Field, Mr. George Folsom, Mr. Benjamin H. Field. Mr. Grinnell has kinaly consented to act assistance of the fund.

Acdresses were listened to during the evening from Professor Silliman, of Yale College, Dr. Francis Leiber, and other gentlemen, among which number was Professor Mitchell, of Cincinnal, who thought it rather singular that he should feel more at home on another planet than on his own. He thought he know more about the side of the moon that was visible than Dr. Hayse did of the polar region; but he wanted to find out what was on the other side fextremely bad. He could therefore appreciate the curiosity of the doctor, who was anxious to explore more of the regions he bad already seen, and that he himself to discover what was on the other side of the moon was willing to run as much risk as the Doctor did of oid and all the other inconveniences that could be met with on a Northern trip.

The meeting was closed by an earnest appeal of Pro-

willing to run as much risk as the Doctor did of coid and all the other inconveniences that could be met with on a Northern trip.

The meeting was closed by an earnest appeal of Professor Mitchell to the andience to assist the expedition. He said that he was about to subscribe, and he hoped the rest would follow his example, not in the amount, but in the act.

During the meeting a resolution was offered and passed, to cominate a committee to collect funds for the fitting out of the expedition.

After the adjournment a paper was placed on the table for those who desired it to ubscribe. Not withstanding the inclemency of the weather, the house was filled to overflow with an attentive audience, among which were many ladies.

Nimo's Garden —Mrs. Barney Williams, one of the most versatile and accomplished sofrences in her line on

most versatile and accomplished actresses in her line on the stage, advertises a splendid programme for her benefit this evening. The attractions of the evening are Man." Barney Williams has completely recovered fro his late illness, and appears with Mrs. Williams in all t plays.

The Atlas Insurance Company's Subscription Notes.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.

Before Hon. Jage Bonny.

MARCH 22 — Nothers Southwork d. al. against David R.

De Wolf, &c. — This was an action to recover upon a note made by the defendant (De Wolf) payable to the order of the Atlas Mutual Insurance company. The note is one of those given under the \$300,000 subscription of November, 1855, and was transferred by the company as collateral for a loan of money to the company, and subsequently passed to the plaintiff. The jury, under instruction of the Court, rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs for the amount of the note and interest.

Arrivals and Departures. MATANZAS-Bark Geo S Hunt-J H Sullman, Thos McNab, PORT AU PLATE-Brig Porto Plata-F Finke, A Ganaland, M.

Deircha.

Nonroux.—Steamship Vorktown.—R. Foran, M.C. Hogan, A. Mazunke, Indy and son, A. Kamhangea, Mrs Wood, Mrs M. Shofer, Mrs Liva, Wise Davenport, James Lavis, O. Houchins, Mrs Liva, M. Wise Davenport, James Lavis, O. Huuchins, Mrs Albon, D. B. Perry D. Breess, John Hauchins, Mrs Albon, D. B. Perry D. Breess, John Hay, Henry Trippe, Mr. Tedenative Miss Bagert, E. P. Chapler, J. P. Chapler, W. M. P. Willey, M. P. Young, Miss Annie Alless, and ten in the sicerage.

ien, Win Lee, I'r Smith, Mr Duffey, M P Young, Miss Annie Alber, and ien in the sicerage.

DEPARTURES.

LIVERPOOL VIA HALIFAX—Steemship Americs, from Boston—Miss Marie Cummines, Miss Am Bowker, Mrs. J W Clarke, Mrs. & Howker, Mrs. J W Clarke, Mrs. & J Clarke, Messers John Guldry, Thomas Burgeas, Geo P Ring, Chas W Fryant and Quincy Philips, of Boston, Mrs. G Pauneefort, of Mclirose, John White, Miss Julia Gonid, H. Gold, M. Gardell, M. Halle, M. Halle,

total 64.

Baranau-Eleamship Monigomery—Mrs. Lewenthal and three children, Frederick Tranchard, elia L G Flournoy, N W Duryes, Alfred J Prazock J and K Eston Thos 8 Boll, Jr, Geo Fescock, C Raibnetsh, Jac Frichard, G B Welsh.

Nonroux, & B.—Stengship Bennoh-e-Goorge Why, George Packing, H Agar, Miss Rosensicel John Dorsey, and nine in the steerast.